Early Action Follow-Up Meeting

ANCHOR QEA

Natural Resource Technology
AN OBG COMPANY

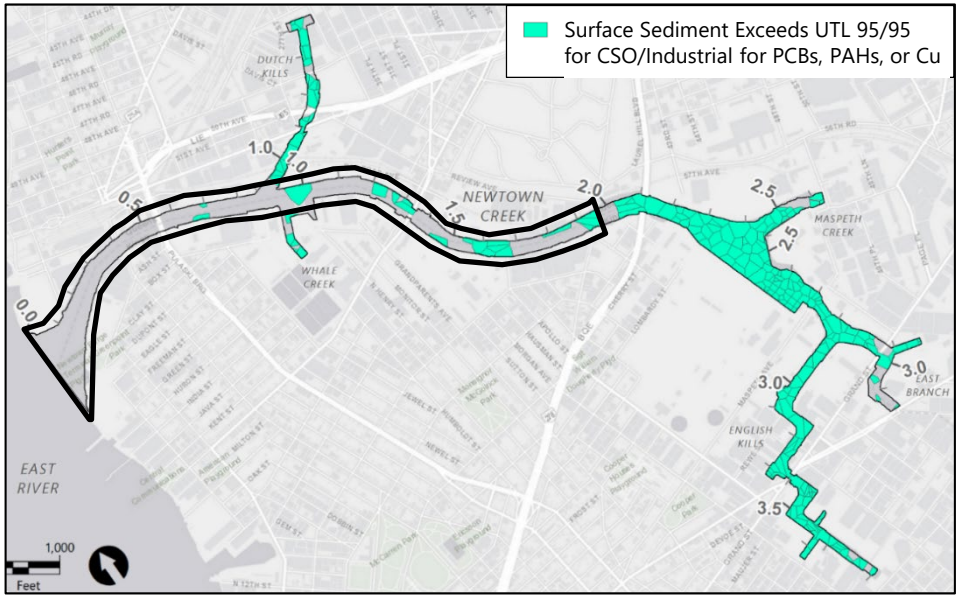
September 13, 2018

Objectives

- Align on technical approach to allow USEPA and the NCG to focus on draft Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) and Statement of Work (SOW)
  - Remedy footprint delineation
  - Pre-Design Investigation
  - Performance metrics for evaluating remedy success
- Summarize the NCG proposal for Treatability Study in East Branch to inform Feasibility Study and remedy for entire creek
- Get USEPA's concurrence by end of September, including in-person monthly meeting technical session, for transition to AOC and SOW

Rationale for Early Action in CM 0–2

- Surface sediment concentrations generally at or below background levels and primarily dictated by deposition from East River tidal exchange
- Discrete areas exceed background and are amenable to focused Early Action (EA)

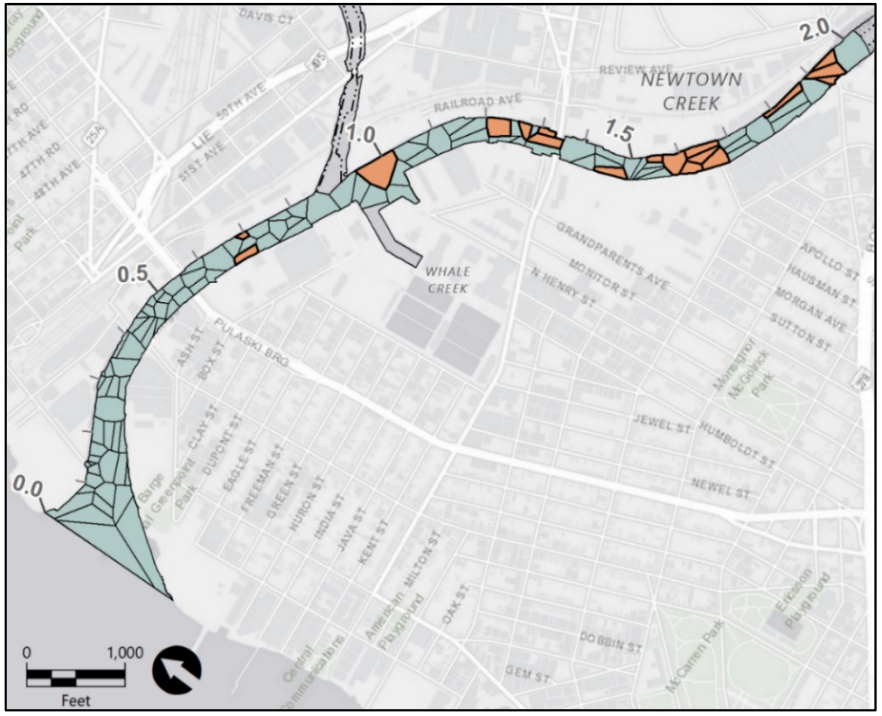


Note: Surface sediment (Biologically Active Zone) is defined as 0 to 6 inches.

- Sets foundation for using background concentrations in cleanup decisions, continuing industrial use, and other stakeholder interests
- Information still needed in the Turning Basin and tributaries to inform site-wide remedy
  - FS sampling
  - Treatability Study

NCG Early Action Concept

- Areas with surface sediment contaminant concentrations above background levels have been delineated and will be remediated
- Background (CSO/Industrial BTVs) used as numerical threshold for delineating areas
- Pre-Design Investigation will be implemented to refine remediation footprint



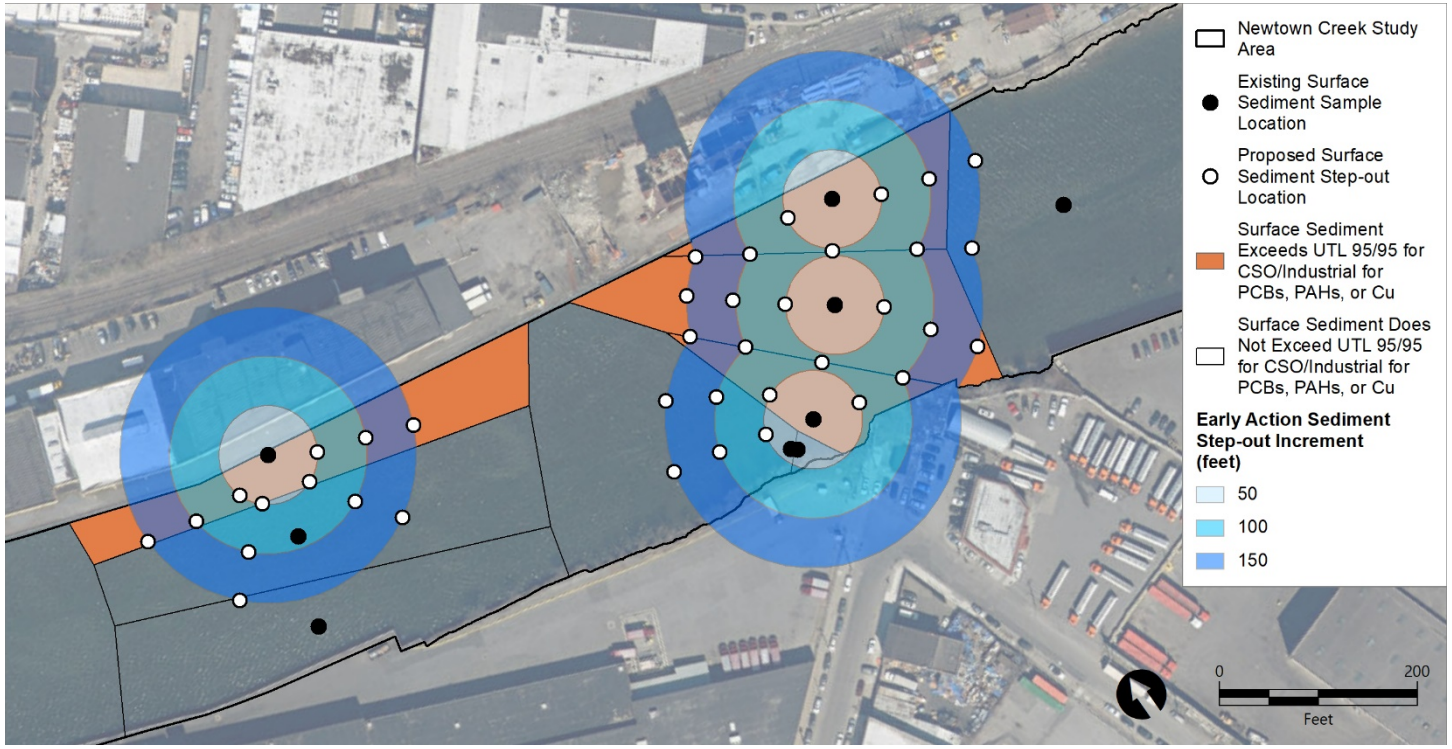
Surface Sediment above PCB, PAH, or Cu CSO/Industrial Background Threshold Values (BTVs)

Focus of Pre-Design Investigation

- Provide more certainty around surface concentrations of PCBs, PAHs, and copper in the lower 2 miles within and near existing EA areas
  - Focus on existing 95/95 UTL BTV exceedances for PCBs, PAHs, and copper

PDI Sampling Approach

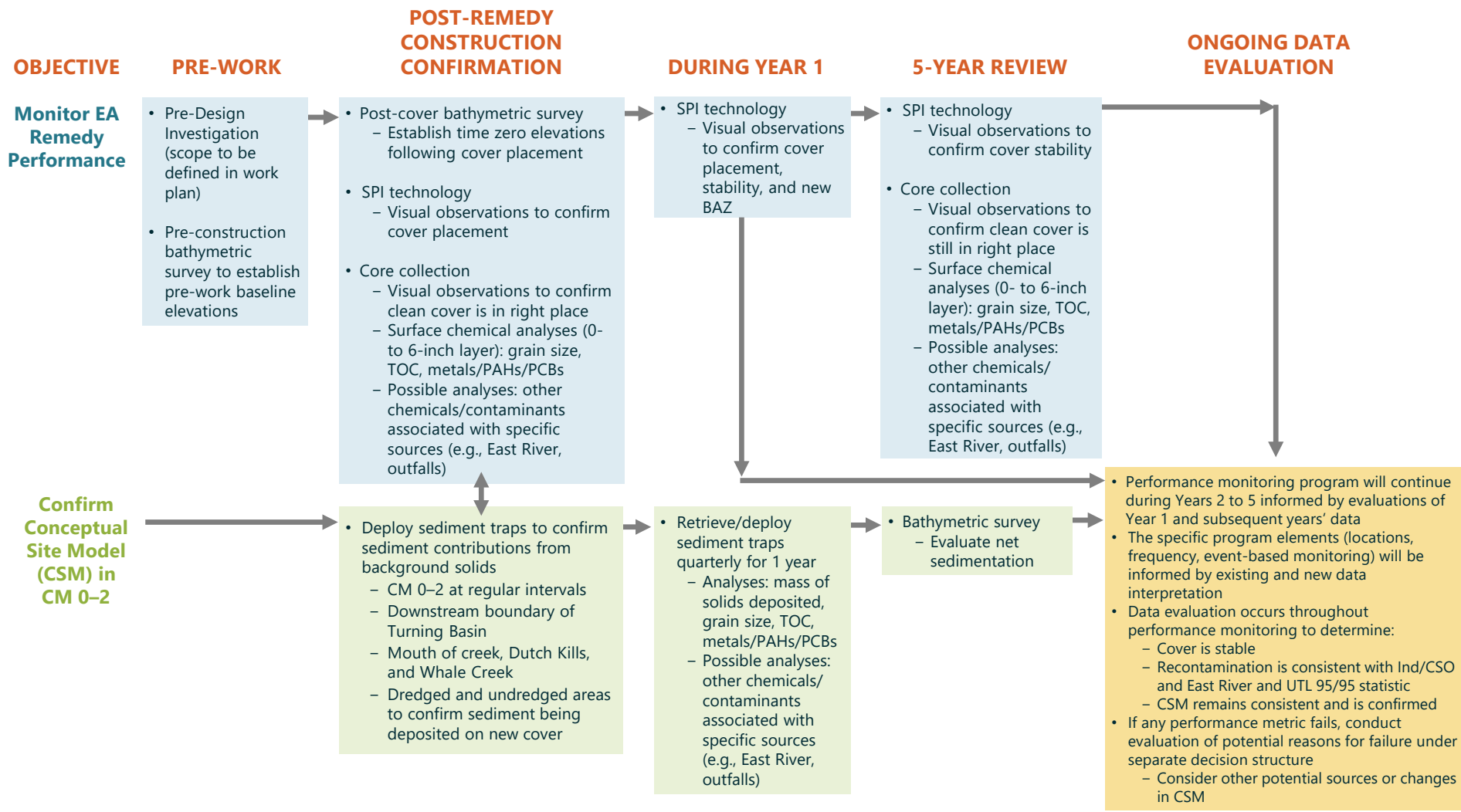
- Refine the EA areas in CM 0–2
  - Iterative step-out grab samples until new sample is at or below background concentrations or an existing sediment sample is already at or below background concentrations



Performance Metrics for Early Action

- Objectives
  - Post-remedy construction confirmation
  - Monitor EA remedy performance
  - Confirm conceptual site model in CM 0–2
- Proposed Components
  - Bathymetry
  - SPI camera technology
  - Surface and shallow subsurface sediment chemistry
  - Sediment traps to measure concentrations in depositing sediment

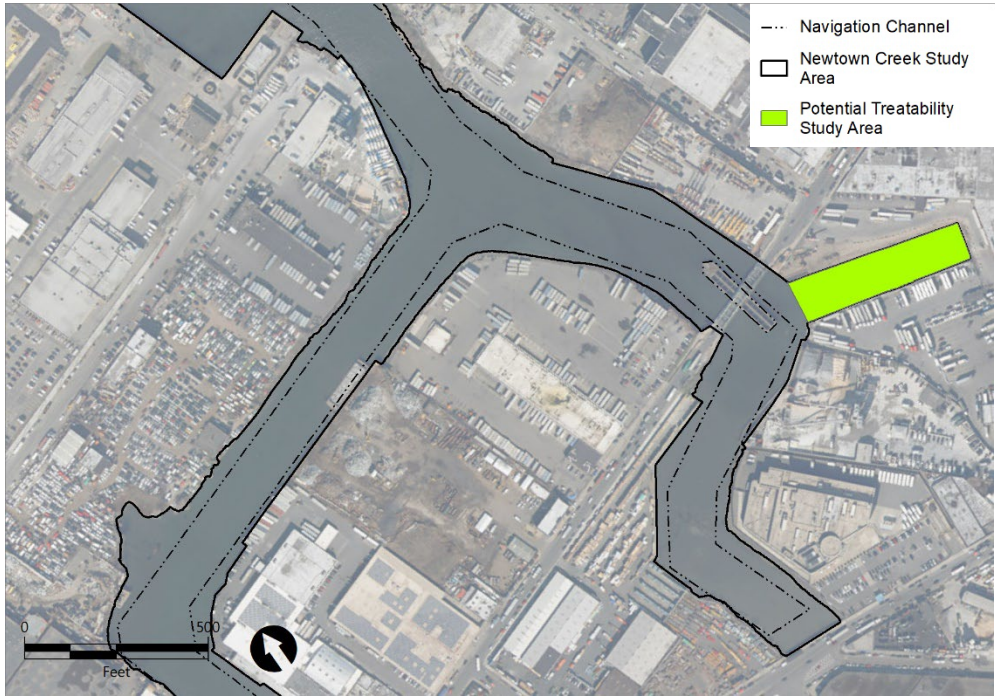
Newtown Creek Early Action – Performance Monitoring



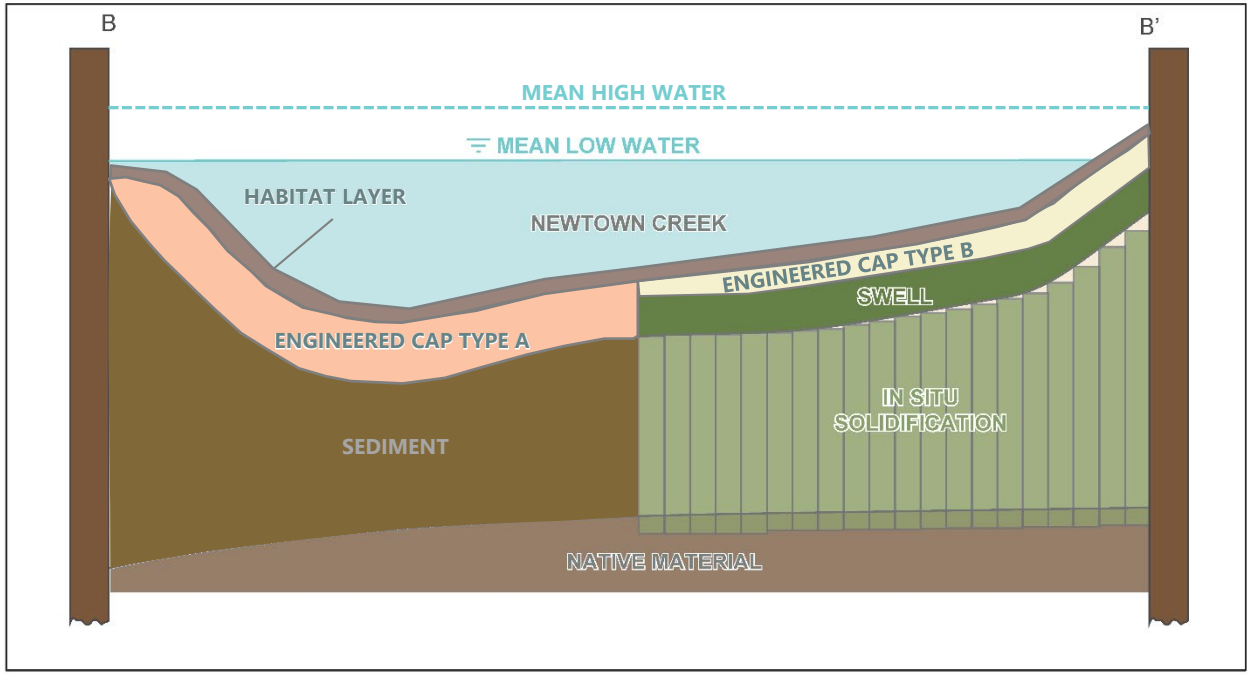
This approach may be modified based on the outcome of the feasibility study process for the entire creek.

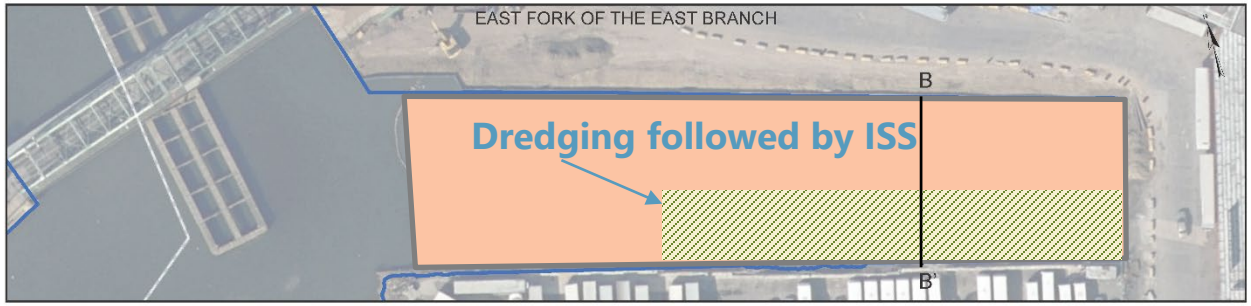
Potential Treatability Study

- Goal: Provide site-specific data necessary to support the evaluation of one or more potential remedial technologies for site-wide FS
- Objectives
  - Understand ability to cap soft sediment
  - Assess applicability of in situ solidification (ISS)
  - Evaluate dredged material dewatering and handling

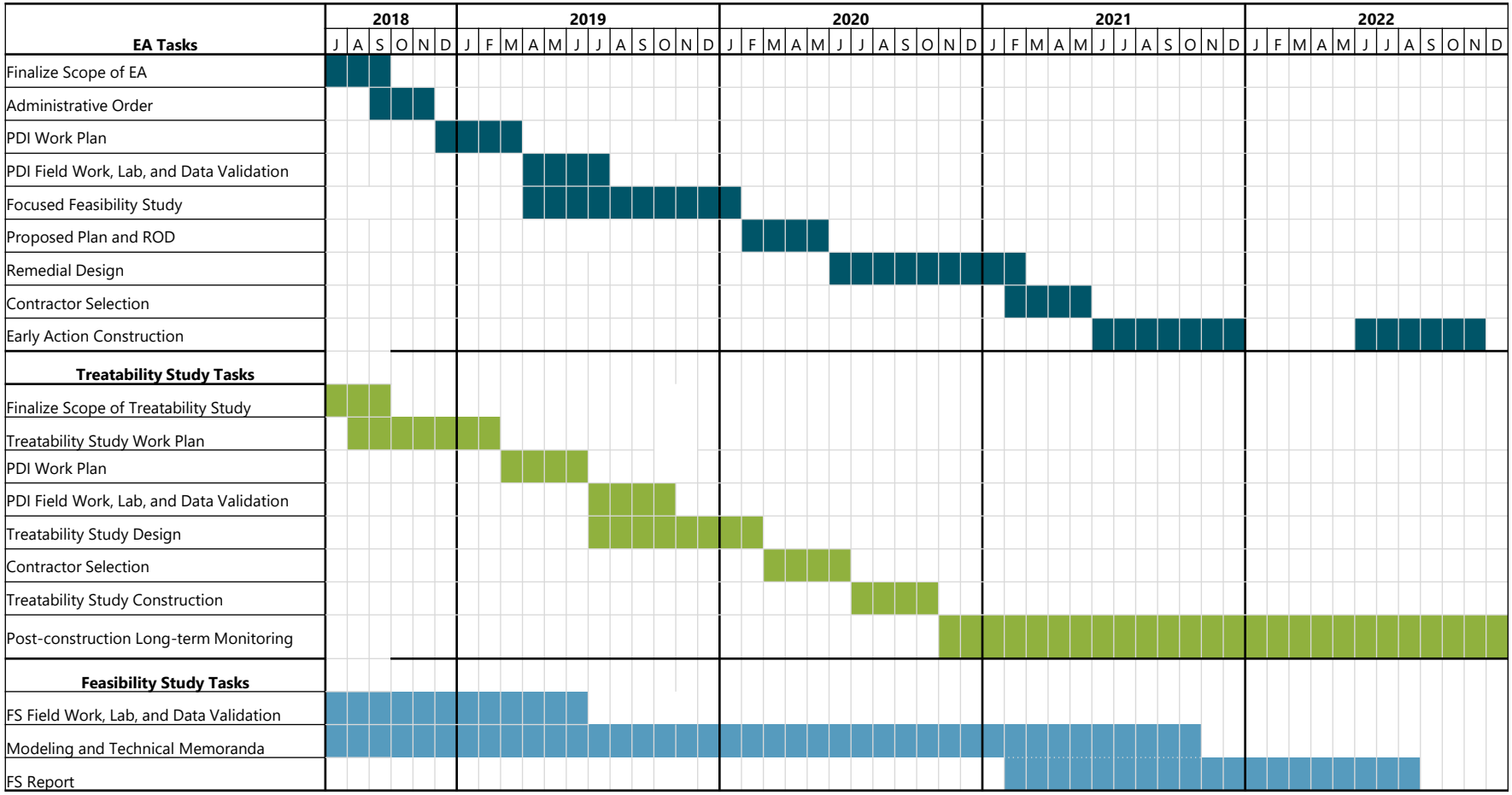


Conceptual Treatability Study in East Branch Slip





Preliminary Early Action and Treatability Study Schedule



New AOC and SOW for Early Action

- AOC and SOW will be limited to EA Focused Feasibility Study and PDI to support EA
  - Treatability Study will be implemented under existing RI/FS AOC
- Anticipate new administrative vehicle(s) for implementation of EA
- SOW to incorporate background concentration in selecting remedy footprint and provide opportunity for performance metrics to confirm remedy success

Steps Requested of USEPA

- USEPA concurrence on EA remedial approach based on background concentrations (CSO/Industrial BTVs)
- USEPA concurrence on performance metrics and PDI
- USEPA concurrence on Treatability Study location and scope
- Technical session focused on performance metrics and PDI planned for September 27 in-person
- Headquarters briefing timing to be determined
- Review of stakeholder communication document

Questions/Discussion